THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Low conviction rate is due to various reasons which, *inter-alia*, include delays and deficiencies in investigation, witness protection measures, delays in courts and weaknesses in judicial infrastructure.

(c) and (d) A Committee has been appointed under Justice V.S. Malimath to suggest measures for revamping of Criminal Justice System.

Success and failure of Fast Track Courts

2006. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the exception of Pune, out of 1713 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) in the country, Government have set-up only 1,080 courts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have analysed the success of Pune and failure of FTCs in other parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per available information, out of the earmarked 1734 Fast Track Courts, 1150 courts have been set up in the country as on 31st July, 2002. The primary responsibility of setting up Fast Track Courts is that of the State Governments and the High Courts. The Central Government is constantly persuading the State Government and the High Courts to make all the Fast Track Courts functional as soon as possible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Supreme Court in its order dated 6th May, 2002 in the case of Brij Mohan Lal *Vs.* Union of India & Ors. has given direction to set up all Fast Track Courts in the country by 5th August, 2002. The direction of the

Supreme Court has been forwarded to all State Governments and High Courts for compliance.

Supreme Court to go hi-tech

2007. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supreme Court has plans to go hi-tech online, as reported recently in the Press;

(b) the name of the agency which would help SC to go hi-tech to make litigation much quicker and cheaper;

(c) whether his Ministry has studied the Singapore Model in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Informatics Centre (NIC), The Supreme Court of India has also requested four reputed firms in the field of IT to study the existing system and submit their project report.

(c) to (e) Shri Pramod Mahajan, Minister of Information Technology, had in April 2000 requested the then Chief Justice of India to consider introduction of a Technology Court in the Supreme Court of India on an experimental basis on the pattern of a Technology Court in the Supreme Court of Singapore. On the direction of the then Chief Justice of India, the National Informatics Centre (NIC) submitted a Project Report on the upgradation of the computer network of the Supreme Court in September, 2000.

NIC, in its Report, had suggested that the existing Hardware and Software at the Supreme Court required to be changed. Some new applications namely, Management Information System (MIS), Public Interface System and Electronic-Courts (E-Courts) are proposed to be introduced. The Registrar General of the Supreme Court of India, accompanied by the Director, NIC also visited Singapore in April, 2002 to study computer facilities available in the Supreme Court of Singapore.